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Intellectual Property Causes
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1FW 3729

Attorney Docket No. P21536

In re application of: K. FUJITA

Application No. : 10/023,994

Filed : December 21, 2001

Mail Stop Amendment

Group Art Unit: 3729

Examiner: R. K. Chang

For : APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING A STACKED-TYPE CONNECTOR OF A WIRE HARNESS, A HOUSING HOLDER, APPARATUS AND METHOD AND FOR STACKING HOUSINGS OF STACKED-TYPE CONNECTORS, AND APPARATUS FOR PRESSING A JOINT PORTION OF A STACKED TYPE CONNECTOR

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an **Election with Traverse** in the above-captioned application.

____ Small Entity Status of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a previously filed statement.

____ A Request for Extension of Time.

☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

Claims After Amendment	No. Claims Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Other Than A Small Entity	
			Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Total Claims: 20	*20	0	x 9=	\$	x 18=	\$0.00
Indep. Claims: 2	**3	0	x 44=	\$	x 88=	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims Presented			+150=	\$	+300=	\$0.00
Extension Fees for ____ Month(s)				\$		\$0.00
Total:				\$	Total:	\$0.00

* If less than 20, write 20

** If less than 3, write 3

____ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 19-0089 in the amount of \$ ____.

N/A A check in the amount of \$ ____ to cover the *filing/extension* fee is included.

☒ The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.

☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, including any required extension of time fees in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for extension of time for its timely submission (37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3)).

William E. Lyddan
Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

William E. Lyddan
Reg. No. 41,568



P200336.A08

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Koji FUJITA

Group Art Unit: 3729

Appln. No.: 10/023,994

Examiner: Rick K. Chang

Filed: December 21, 2001

For: APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING A STACKED-TYPE CONNECTOR OF A WIRE HARNESS, A HOUSING HOLDER, APPARATUS AND METHOD AND FOR STACKING HOUSINGS OF STACKED-TYPE CONNECTORS, AND APPARATUS FOR PRESSING A JOINT PORTION OF A STACKED TYPE CONNECTOR

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT WITH TRAVERSE

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop **AMENDMENT**
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement of January 10, 2005, setting a one month period for response extending until February 10, 2005, Applicant elects the invention of Group I, with traverse, for the reasons expressed below. Claims 1 - 5 and 8 - 17 are considered to be "readable" on the invention of Group I (as set forth by the Examiner, except for claim 5 which was not identified by the Examiner).

Applicant respectfully traverses the Restriction Requirement. Even if the Examiner's characterization of Groups I - V as defining distinct inventions were to be considered

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correct, Applicant respectfully requests that all of the inventions defined in claims 1 - 20, nevertheless, be examined in the instant application, pursuant to the guidelines set forth in M.P.E.P. §803. That is, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the requirement and find that there would not appear to be a "serious burden" on the Patent and Trademark Office in examining claims directed to the non-elected inventions since the Examiner will have to search for apparatus and methods quite similar to that of claims 6, 7, and 18 - 20 while searching for the apparatus of claims 1 - 5 and 8-17.

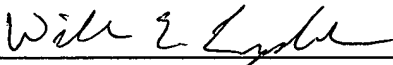
It would appear that the search for the inventions identified by the Examiner would be coextensive or at least significantly overlap. That is, if the Examiner were to perform a search for the invention of Group I, there would not appear to be a serious burden in continuing the examination of the other inventions of Group II - V. For this reason, and consistent with office policy as set forth in M.P.E.P. 803, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the Requirement for Restriction.

For the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the Requirement for Restriction in this application is improper and it is respectfully requested that it be reconsidered and withdrawn.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned
at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Koji FUJITA

 William E. Lyddane
Bruce H. Bernstein Reg. No. 41,568
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February 3, 2005
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